Lion and Lamb Apologetics

AMOS

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

To declare the universal justice of God, to pronounce judgment upon the northern kingdom of Israel.

Author

Amos, a shepherd from Tekoa.

Date

Probably written c.760-750 BC during the reigns of Jeroboam II of Israel and Uzziah (Azariah) of Judah.

Audience

The people of the northern kingdom of Israel and God's people everywhere.

Setting

The northern kingdom of Israel was experiencing a time of wealth and prosperity unparalleled since the days of Solomon, but they had become complacent and were oppressing the poor.

Special Features

Amos uses striking metaphors from his shepherding and farming experience—a loaded cart, a roaring lion, a mutilated sheep, pampered cows, and a basket of fruit.



Key Verses

"Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to do so?" (3:3 NIV)

"For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets." (3:7 ESV)

"Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD." (8:11 ESV)

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." (5:24 ESV)

Key People

Amos, Amaziah, Jeroboam II.

Key Places

Bethel, Samaria.